

# Administration of Criminal Laws a Disgrace to Civilization

By William H. Taft, Secretary of War.

**L**IMITED to that of moderator in a religious assembly, the law throws the reins on the back of the jury, and the verdict becomes rather the vote of a town meeting than the sharp, clear decision of the tribunal of justice.

The counsel for the defence, relying on the importance of unimportant details a false atmosphere, which the judge is powerless to dispel, and under the hypnotic influence of which the counsel is able to lead the jurors to vote for a verdict which after the excitement has passed they are unable to support as men.

Since 1885 in the United States there have been 131,951 murders and homicides and 2286 executions. In 1885 the number of murders was 1808, and in 1904 8482. The number of executions in 1885 was 108, and in 1904 110.

This startling increase in murders and homicides compared with executions tells the story. As murder is increasing so are all felonies, and there can be no doubt that they will continue to increase unless the criminal laws are enforced with more certainty, uniformity and severity than they now are.

If laws could be passed either abolishing the right of criminal appeal and leaving to the pardoning power the correction of judicial wrong, or if appeals must be allowed, then if a law could be enacted by which no judgment of the court below should be reversed except for an error which the court, after reading the entire evidence, can say would have led to a different verdict, ninety-nine reversals out of one hundred under the present system would be avoided.

If the power of the court by statute to advise the jury to comment and express its opinion to the jury upon the facts in every criminal case, could be restored, and if the state and the defendant were both deprived of peremptory challenges in the selection of a jury, twenty-five percent of those trials which are now miscarriages of justice would result in the conviction of the guilty defendant, and that which has become a mere game in which the defendant's counsel play with loaded dice would resume its office of a serious judicial investigation.

Our country is disgusted by the number of lynchings in the north and south. If men who commit crime were promptly arrested and convicted, there would be no mob for the purpose of lynching. Nothing but a radical improvement in our administration of criminal law will prevent the growth in the number of lynchings in the United States that bring the blush of shame to every lover of his country.

## How Fashions are Formed

The Way New Styles or New Fads Come Forth in Paris.

By Lady Violet Greville.

**T**HOSE who see the beautiful new confections, the marvels of lace, embroidery and feathers, the novel designs and the artistic ideas, probably often wonder who sets the fashions and whence they come. The best, of course, originate in Paris, where a regular business is made of designing. Not one person alone, not one establishment alone, but all the best and most scientific of milliners consort and advise together. Sometimes an original idea emanates from a humble workwoman, and after fusion in the brain and improvements and suggestions given by the great autocrat, it emerges, Minerva-like, in full panoply, complete and victorious. Numbers of diligent seekers, a horde of assistants, voluminous notes, sketches, ideas, are pressed into the service. Artists lend their willing services, contribute designs or sketches, while the sartorial adept combines, exaggerates, alters old modes, culling, like the bee, flowers of fancy here and there, until the bright vision of beauty is realized and the forthcoming styles decided on. A touch here, a line there, make all the difference, but it requires an artist's touch to assimilate them. Needless to say, the rivalry is incessant and intense, until at last a committee is formed, opinions given, and the fashion is launched forth.

Then must the clients be consulted, the actresses interested, the fine ladies dressed. No tailors, even after the greatest pains and anxiety, will a fashion catch on, nor will that fashion suit everybody. There are modes for the dashing, extravagant American, others for the smart English woman, and others for the chic Parisienne, who is more exclusive and more exacting in her taste. Fashions are born, like Venus, from the foam of the sea—from a chance combination of color, an accident, a careless caprice, a momentary effect, which strikes the artist's eye and gives him an idea. Old portraits and picture galleries are carefully studied, with a view to new apotheoses of beauty, until the life of a great courtesan becomes the life of the true genius—struggle, ambition, perseverance and success.

## The Abundant Life

By the President of the University of California.

**W**E ARE living in days of abundance," he said. "The economic conditions of the last ten years have suddenly produced a portentously numerous class of American beings whose whole strength and wit are completely absorbed in devising the means of spending any reasonable portion of their income."

Their money has torn them away from the ordinary standards of home and civic life, created a new set of conditions for them, made them its servants. They change their abiding place with the seasons, have no home and have forgotten where they vote.

The sudden dislodgment of life conditions produced by the rapid access of wealth, in the case of such as allow their lives to be mastered by material wealth, commonly results in a pitiful maladjustment of machinery to work demanded. A man buys more villas than he can live in, more clothes than he can wear and more yachts than he can sail; and then fills his life with false movements in a nervous attempt to keep the machinery going.

One of the saddest features of lives pursued by wealth consists in their isolation from humanity. People who maintain steam yachts and dine Frenchfully at night and flit between Lenox and Newport and Palm Beach and Homburg are naturally and automatically driven into the society of the like-conditioned and bound there. Their sons attend the same expensive academies, their daughters are polished off at some elite schools, their sons and daughters meet together and they intermarry and interdivorce; and the caste of the great rich emerges.

Sound judgment and clear perspective in the motives and movements of human life are seldom found among these people of the caste who drag the golden ball and chain. Abundance of goods cannot insure either to a people or to an individual that quality of existence which we are justified in associating with the motion of richness, fullness, abundance of life. A man lives abundantly according as he opens his life to the opportunities of the world he lives in both to be and to do.

We need national laws for divorce, for the oversight of insurance, for the regulation of the traffic of the great national concerns, to court the inspiration of the nation's life and be Americans.

### REMOVING INK STAINS.

Ink stains may be removed from white goods with lemon and salt. Cover the stain with fine salt, squeeze the lemon juice on it and rub between the hands. A second application will be necessary when the ink is obstinate. Ink may be removed successfully from colored clothes by soaking them in sweet milk. Milk will usually disappear if soaked in sour milk, and then washed in the usual manner. Chloride of lime will also remove ink stains, but it must be well diluted and carefully used.—The Pilgrim.

### Tearful Milk.

A lady was complaining to her dairymaid some time ago about the quality of her milk. "Short o' grass feed this time o' year," said the dairymaid. "Bless you, them cows o' mine are just as sorry about it as I am. I often stands and watches 'em cryin'—regular cryin'—mum—don't do 'em credit. You don't believe it?" "Oh, yes, I believe it," said the lady; "but I wish in future you'd see that they don't drop their tears into our can."—The Tattler.

## SOUTH CAROLINA CROP BULLETIN

Weather Conditions Given Out by the Department Observer.

The South Carolina section of the climate and crop service of the Department of Agriculture issues the following official bulletin of weather and crop conditions for the past week:

The week ending Monday, September 4th began with very cool weather but the warmth increased to above normal by its close, making the average temperature for the week about normal. The extremes were a maximum of 98 degrees at Blackville and Florence on September 1st and 2nd and a minimum of 50 degrees at Greenville on August 29th and 30th. The week was generally clear with increasing cloudiness during the last two days. The relative humidity was uniformly low.

Over the greater portion of the State there was no rain during the week, and in places the ground is becoming dry and the need of moisture is indicated, especially in the coast truck districts; showers were general, though mostly light, over the western half of the State beginning on the night of the 1st and continuing to the close; there were also rains in the eastern tier of counties with occasional heavy showers.

On the whole, the weather was favorable for general farm work, especially for haying and saving fodder and for picking cotton. In localities where the soil has been too wet heretofore it dried sufficiently to permit gardening and plowing. Some oats have been sown in the central counties.

Cotton continues to deteriorate on sandy lands owing to rust and excessive shedding, so that practically the plants have ceased to grow or fruit and nearly all the top crop has dropped off; on clay lands the conditions are better, but rust has appeared in places. On sandy lands cotton opened rapidly, and picking made rapid progress over the eastern and central counties and will be general over the western ones during the coming week. On clay lands it is just beginning to open freely. Cotton pillars continue numerous on sea-island cotton.

Tobacco curing is finished. Rice harvest is underway and some has been thrashed. Peas and sweet potatoes are doing well. Pastures continue good. Strawberry plants being set out. Fall truck being planted extensively in the coast districts but the soil is too dry for favorable germination.—J. W. Bauer, Section Director.

### Colleton Prisoners Try to Break Jail.

Walterboro, Special.—Thursday night there came near being another successful jail delivery here. Some time ago six young white men from the vicinity of Green Pond and Young's Island were committed to jail for breaking into and stealing from some freight cars near Green Pond. A report of this has already been published, also the report of an attempt by these six young men to break out of jail. Their escape was prevented by the timely discovery of the sheriff.

### South Carolina Items.

President Harvie Jordan of the Southern Cotton Association will be in Bennettsville on September 12, and will address the cotton growers of Marlboro in the court house on that day. President Smith and Treasurer Hyatt of the State association will also be here at the same time. Jordan and Smith will address a big cotton growers' rally at Maxton, N. C., on the 9th.

H. W. Holloway, a special agent employed by the comptroller general, went to Leesville recently to investigate the burning of the house of Henry Montz last March. As a result two white men were arrested their names being John and William Taylor.

The prospect for a large enrollment at the fall session of Converse College, which begins September 20th are very bright, and President Pell, from the information in hand, is sure that the number of new students will be unusually large.

Fire broke out at an early hour Tuesday in an outbuilding on the Union county poor house farm. The barn and stables, three mules, a lot of corn and a quantity of provender were consumed. The origin of the fire is thought to have been accidental. The value of the property destroyed is estimated at \$850, with insurance of \$350.

Adam Wilkes, a negro man, was brought to Spartanburg charged with the serious crime of criminally assaulting a colored girl, Ivy Choise, aged eight years. His case was investigated in Magistrate Kirby's court and he was bound over to sessions court. The evidence against Wilkes was very damning.

There is no longer any question of the Tennessee Normal College, of the Baptist denomination, and its future.

## ENVOYS SIGN THE TREATY

### Last Act In The War Drama And The Curtain Goes

### HISTORICAL PAPER'S CONTENTS

**Mr. Witte Signed First and When All Had Done So Baron Rosen and Baron Komura Exchanged Compliments For the Two Missions—Russian Mission Attends Thanksgiving Service at Christ Episcopal Church—Rulers to Sign Copies Within 50 Days.**

Portsmouth, N. H., Special.—The treaty of Portsmouth was signed shortly before 4 o'clock Tuesday afternoon in the conference room of the navy general store at the navy yard. The signing of a national salute of 19 guns was the signal which told the people of Portsmouth, Kittery and New Castle that the peace of Portsmouth was accomplished fact, and the church bells in the three towns were soon pealing forth a joyful refrain.

For 47 minutes those outside the conference room anxiously awaited a signal. Suddenly an orderly dashed to the entrance of the peace building and waved his hand to the gunners. A few feet away and the opening shot of the salute rang out on the clear air of the soft September afternoon, claiming peace between Russia and Japan.

### WITTE GRANTS KOMURA'S HAND.

Up to the moment of signing the treaty, no word had broken the silence of the conference room. Throwing his pen aside, Mr. Witte, without a word, reached across the table and grasped Baron Komura's hand. His conferees followed and the Russian and Japanese delegates remained for a moment in silence, their right hands tightly clasped across the conference table. The war was over—Russia and Japan were once more friends.

This simple ceremony rang through and deeply impressed the attaches and secretaries of the two missions, who, with the invited witnesses, had formed a large circle around the delegates sitting at the table.

Baron de Rosen was the first to break the silence. Rising from his seat, the ambassador, looking at Baron Komura and Mr. Takahira straight in the eye, said a few words which one had only to hear to know that they came from his heart. He began by saying that he wished, on behalf of Mr. Witte, Russia's first plenipotentiary, and in his own name, to say a few words.

### ROSEN'S EARNEST WORDS.

"We have just signed," continued the ambassador, "an act which will have forever a place in the annals of history. As negotiators on behalf of the empire of Russia, as well as the empire of Japan, we may with tranquil conscience say that we have done all that was in our power in order to bring about the peace for which the whole civilized world was longing. We earnestly hope that friendly relations between the two empires will henceforth be firmly established and we trust that his excellency, Baron Komura, as Minister of Foreign Affairs, and one of the leading statesmen of his country, will apply to the strengthening of these relations, the wide experience and wise statesmanship he so conspicuously displayed during these negotiations, which have now been so auspiciously concluded."

### BARON KOMURA'S RESPONSE.

Baron Komura replied that he shared entirely the views of Baron de Rosen. The Treaty of Portsmouth which they had just signed, he said, was in the interest of humanity and civilization and he was happy to believe that it would bring about a firm, lasting peace between the two neighboring empires. He begged to assure the Russian plenipotentiaries that it would be his duty as well as his pleasure to do everything in his power to make the treaty in fact what it professes to be in words—a treaty of peace and amity.

Portsmouth, N. H., Special.—The peace opens with a preamble reciting that his majesty, the Emperor and autocrat of all the Russians, and his majesty, the Emperor of Japan, desiring to close the war now subsisting between them and having appointed their respective plenipotentiaries and furnished them with full powers, which were found to be in form, have come to an agreement on a treaty of peace and arranged as follows:

Article 1 stipulates for the establishment of peace.

### Caucasus in Wild Panic.

Baku, By Cable.—Troops under the direction of the Governor are acting with the utmost vigor, but they have not succeeded in restoring order, although there is no longer any firing. Armed rioters attacked the oil works on the suburb of Balakhan, and after a hot fight set fire to them. Tartars are scouring the country, murdering and pillaging. The country is in a state of wild panic, and houses and farms are being abandoned.

### The Inland Waterway.

Washington, Special.—The engineering board, designated by the Secretary of War to make a new survey of the proposed inland waterway, will visit Norfolk and North Carolina points in October for the purpose of holding hearings, so that the best opinions of the people with reference to selection of a route can be secured. This information was obtained by Representative Small, who called at the War Department and conferred with Col. Smith Leach, the president of this board.

### Dr. Rice Named.

Columbia, S. C., Special.—The executive committee of the Columbia Theological seminary has been in session here all day in an effort to elect a president of the institution. They did this indirectly only, having recommended to the trustees that Dr. Theron H. Rice, of Atlanta, be given a position. He was leader in the movement to have the seminary moved from Columbia and consolidated with the Clarksville university into a big Presbyterian university at Atlanta.

### Public Printer Ousted.

Washington, Special.—Public Printer F. W. Palmer practically has been ousted from office. It was learned authoritatively that President Roosevelt has demanded Mr. Palmer's resignation to take effect on the 15th instant. The demand of the President for Mr. Palmer's resignation was due primarily to the latter's action in trying to force Oscar J. Ricketts and L. C. Hay out of the Government Printing Office. Mr. Palmer asked for the resignation of Ricketts and Hay on the ground that they had been insubordinate.

## PALMETTO AFFAIRS

Many Newsworthy Items Gathered From all Sections.

### General Cotton Market.

Galveston, quiet.....10 5-16  
New Orleans, quiet.....10 1-16  
Mobile, easy.....10 1-16  
Savannah, dull and easy.....10 1-16  
Charleston, quiet.....10 1-16  
Norfolk, steady.....10 1-16  
Baltimore, nominal.....10 1-16  
New York, quiet.....10 1-16  
Boston, quiet.....10 1-16  
Philadelphia, quiet.....10 1-16  
Houston, steady.....10 1-16  
Augusta, steady.....10 3-16  
Memphis, quiet.....10 1-16  
St. Louis, quiet.....10 1-16  
Louisville, firm.....10 1-16

### Charlotte-Cotton Market.

These figures represent prices paid to wagons:  
Good middling.....10 1-16  
Strict middling.....10 1-16  
Middling.....10 1-16  
Tinges.....9 to 10  
Stains.....7 to 9

### Dispensary Investigation.

Sumter, Special.—The special committee to investigate the dispensary took up the work here last week. The dispenser at this point was supposed to be a model of accuracy and honesty, but it developed that his administration has been far from perfect. The testimony went to show that the law has not been carried out in many particulars. That feature requiring the use of the request blanks has been entirely neglected and there seems to have been more or less "graft" in the selling of bottles and cases, amounting to some \$500 to \$600 per year. While the committee failed to unearth anything positively startling, enough was brought out to show that the institution has been conducted without proper regard to the law, and this in the face of the fact that both the county board and the State board have been notified that such was the case. On Thursday afternoon the committee took a recess.

### An Atrocious Crime.

Johnston, Special.—Jim Padgett, a mulatto, was arrested by Chief of Police Derrick as the former was attempting to leave the city on the early train. Padgett is charged with an assault on a young white girl who lives near here. The assault occurred on last Monday and Padgett has been in hiding since. After the arrest he was immediately carried to Edgefield and it is reported will be carried to Columbia. The crime is a very atrocious one. The girl belongs to a highly respected family. Expressions of lynching are freely indulged in, and Padgett would suffer violence if opportunity offered. It is said he made a similar attempt on another victim a few years ago.

### Escaped From the Gang.

Laurens, Special.—Joe Harris, a two-year convict, broke his chains while at the camp alone Tuesday afternoon, and taking one of the mules belonging to the county, made his escape from the county changing. He was sick and had been left at the camp, which is located about five miles northeast of the city, securely chained, as the guard thought. He was captured six miles below town by Messrs. Milam and Morris of Lisbon. He had traveled about 12 or 14 miles and when captured had divested himself of his shackles. He had evidently abandoned the mule and was evidently making his way back to Greenville or Edgefield, whence he came a little over a year ago. After escaping Tuesday he broke into a negro woman's house and stole a quantity of meat and canned fruits, etc.

### Charged With Bigamy.

Anderson, Special.—Will Rowland, a mill operative, has been lodged in jail on a charge of bigamy. Both of his alleged wives are living in this county, and it was upon a warrant taken out by his second mother-in-law that he was arrested at Toxco, Ga., and brought back to this city. He will probably be tried for his offense at the approaching term of the sessions court.

### Chester To Vote On The Dispensary.

Chester, Special.—This county is to be canvassed early and thoroughly for the purpose of securing signatures to petitions asking for an election at as early a day as may be deemed best on the question of "dispensary" or "no dispensary." A committee of one from each of the eight townships has the matter in charge. That committee is composed as follows: L. D. Childs, Geo. W. Byers, H. T. Boyd, W. S. Durham, T. B. McKeown, J. M. Hollis and J. M. Boulware.

### Palmetto Items.

Postmaster Wilson says Florence will soon have free delivery, in fact before she hardly knows it if receipts keep running up. The receipts for July were \$250 more this year than they were for the same month last year.

The Union county dispensary and all the stock on hand in the same has been placed in the hands of the sheriff of the county.

The secretary of state last week issued a commission to the Williamsburg Live Stock Company, capitalized at \$25,000. The incorporators are Hugh McCutchen, C. M. Hinds, W. I. Nixon and others.

A commission was issued to the Barnwell Farmers' Warehouse Company, capitalized at \$3,000. The incorporators are: Frank H. Creech, Geo. W. Peacock, Willis J. Dancan, W. I. Richardson and Sam Kelford.

## EARTHQUAKE SHOCK

Disturbances Disinctive and Severe in Parts of Italy

### 370 REPORTED DEAD IN THE SOUTH

Shock Before Daylight is Said to Have Completely Destroyed 18 Villages and Wrought Widespread Loss of Life and Property in the Southern Extremity of the Peninsula.

Rome, By Cable.—All Italy is suffering from terrible depression because of the news from the South, where one of the worst earthquakes ever experienced occurred Friday. Although the earthquake was felt all over Calabria and to a certain extent in Sicily, the worst news came from Pizzo and Monteleone and from the eighteen villages, which are said to have been completely destroyed. According to the latest news received, 370 persons have been killed and a great number injured. It is as yet impossible to even estimate the property losses.

The shock was felt at 2:55 o'clock Friday morning. It lasted for eighteen seconds at Catanzaro and soon thereafter was felt at Messina, Reggio, Monteleone, Martirano, Stefacitti, Narda, Olivani and other points. Scenes of indescribable terror ensued. Women, aroused from their sleep, rushed half clothed into the streets, screaming with fear, carrying their babies and dragging along their other children, and calling for help on the madonna and the saints. The men escaped into the open with their families, all calling on their favorite saints for protection. The cafes were taken by assault by the strangely garbed crowd, but as daylight broke without a repetition of the earthquake the crowd gradually melted away until by 8 o'clock the streets had almost assumed their normal appearance except in the ruined villages, where the inhabitants had no homes to go to. The general confusion was added to by dreadful cries from the jails, where the prisoners were beside themselves with fright and in some cases maddened, but fortunately all the prisoners were kept within bounds.

Troops, engineers and doctors have been hurried to the scenes of the disaster to assist in the work of rescue and salvage. The Ministry of the Interior sent \$4,000 for the relief of the destitute, and the Minister of Public Works left for Calabria in the evening.

### Public Printer Palmer Dismissed.

Oyster Bay, N. Y., Special.—President Roosevelt took summary action in the case of Frank W. Palmer, Public Printer and head of the Government Printing Office at Washington.

Last Monday the President directed Mr. Palmer to send him his resignation to take effect on the 15th instant. At the same time he directed him not to take any further action in the case of Oscar J. Ricketts, foreman of printing, and L. C. Hay, a division foreman, in the Government Printing Office, whose resignations Mr. Palmer had requested.

In direct disobedience of the President's instructions, Mr. Palmer on the 5th instant, notified Ricketts and Hay that the time which they might have in which to answer his charges would be extended until Saturday, the 9th instant. As this was a violation of the President's specific instructions, and as the case of Ricketts and Hay had been placed in the hands of the Keep commission for investigation, the President felt it was time to take positive action regarding Mr. Palmer. He thereupon removed him from office by telegraph and directed him to turn over to the Government Printing Office to Foreman Ricketts, whom he has designated as acting Public Printer.

### Asheville Slayer Arrested.

Asheville, N. C., Special.—Floyd E. James was arrested Tuesday afternoon at 1:30 o'clock by Patrolman James on a warrant charging him with the murder of James Dougherty, last Sunday night, August 27. Mr. James was placed under arrest while at work, a short distance from his residence, and brought to the city hall. He was in court with attorneys relating to the conduct of his case and at the conclusion of this conference a preliminary hearing will be had. When arrested Mr. James declared that he was an innocent man and that he regretted the arrest more on his wife's account than on his own.

### Stranded Vessel Sighted.

Norfolk, Va., Special.—The steamer Aragon, lumber laden from Georgetown, S. C., to New York via Norfolk, which stranded two miles south of False Cape, on the Virginia coast, Th Aragon and the lumber-laden barge Saxon, which went ashore with the steamer but was subsequently flooded, arrived here this afternoon apparently uninjured.

### Atlanta Patient Dead.

Atlanta, Special.—Atlanta's only yellow fever case resulted fatally shortly after noon Tuesday. The patient, J. C. Caruthers, who arrived from Pensacola last Friday, had been sent to the defunct hospital after an attack of yellow fever of a pronounced type. No other cases have reached here and none are expected with the vigorous precautions that have been taken to exclude even suspicious cases from outside points.

### Shot by State Senator.

Charleston, S. C., Special.—A special from Saluda, S. C., says that Joe Ben Coleman, a well-known citizen of that town, was shot and it is believed fatally injured, by State Senator E. S. Bleese. The encounter was on the main street and Coleman received four wounds. Bleese surrendered to the sheriff. No further particulars are known here. Mr. Bleese is a brother to Senator Cole. He is a figure in so prominently in the dispensary investigation. One is Senator of Newberry and the other Senator from Saluda, adjoining counties.